

Claims

1. A process for the preparation of sertraline hydrochloride polymorphic form II, wherein a solution of sertraline free amine is seeded with some crystals of polymorphic form II and hydrogen chloride is added.
2. A process according to claim 1 wherein the solution of sertraline free amine is seeded with some crystals of polymorphic form II and subsequently hydrogen chloride is added.
3. A process according to claim 1 wherein hydrogen chloride is added to the solution of sertraline free amine and subsequently the solution is seeded with some crystals of polymorphic form II.
4. A process according to claim 1 wherein hydrogen chloride is added as a solution.
5. A process according to claim 1, wherein a solution of sertraline free amine in a ketone is used.
6. A process according to claim 5, wherein the ketone is of formula $R_1\text{-CO-R}_2$, where R_1 and R_2 independently are $C_1\text{-C}_4$ alkyl.
7. A process according to claim 1, wherein a solution of sertraline free amine in acetone, methyl ethyl ketone or methyl isobutyl ketone is used.
8. A process according to claim 4, wherein hydrogen chloride is added as an aqueous solution.
9. A process according to claim 1, wherein the amount of seeding crystals used is 0.1 to 10 mol-%, based on the molar amount of sertraline.